
American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection



Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
November 1, 1926-December 16, 1926

Box Number:

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Monday Mon
Nov. 1. 1926

mail under reef

My dearest One:

No mail in yet - so no
more news from you but
I know all is well + am
at perfect peace + rest.
I want to write about the
trip up to western hills
+ get it on the way - may
wait to add some ^{other} if I
see the boat is sometime
off. Our mail goes mostly
thru Mukden + Japan to
Canada or U.S. little goes
down by Shanghai, I suppose
because of the uncertainty
of mails from the war-
conditions. As I write I

3] cover we made ~~of the~~
~~old man's samples~~! Aunt
Claros' scarf + the mittens —
all bundled in a Ford —
that is 5 in each — there were
about 28 in all — It was a
bit rickety but went! —
I never saw such springs
they stood all the bumps +
putts imaginably + didn't seem
the least affected. Henry Ford
must put in an extra
supply or strong variety!
It was my first motor
ride since coming + I must
say it isn't a joy "forever"
because the Chinese streets
are narrow — not to talk
of the bumps — filled with
rickshas, carts, + people —
for the little semblance

² Hear a great pounding of drums + noise. It must be a funeral as our teacher this a.m. told us that weddings weren't in the a.m. but generally noon or after.

Friday with great rush + hustle we got off. Thursday was quite cool! They put double glass windows ~~in~~ our rooms + we felt the need of covers + a nice taste of Peking's cold. We took very warm things to the hills. I wore my red + blue dress - took ~~woolen undies~~, ~~blue coat~~ ~~mts. Noyes made~~, the steamer rug + also the

of a sidewalk on some of
the streets are taken up
with the salesman - that
term sounds a bit dignified
rather, a rather raggedly
dressed coolie - none too
immaculate especially on
windy days - who may
have just stepped his squeak-
ing cart there - spread a blue
cloth over it & put on it
his wares - They may be
little piles of peanuts, or
piles of luscious orange
colored persimmons which
just melt in your mouth -
or perhaps a great variety
of many little articles -
There is a great line of
such (stores) all along Tula

5] could be ^{called} ridiculous if one
weren't too technical in defi-
nition of that term. These
rather crowd all the traffic
into the street proper +
a motor goes wildly
honking thru this melee
of slowly moving traffic
and one feels decidedly foreign
& conspicuous. Not that
Chinese, soldiers & gentlemen
don't use them - they do -
but one is never sure just
how many might run
over in the process. It is
quite amazing but we
didn't hit anyone at all!
We left Peking & went thru
the country - occasionally
thru a village with its

1) of the cor + soon. the
usual crowd of villagers
collected to see + if they
were fortunate to carry our
bags + make a few coppers!

There were 2 hostels formerly
owned by the Methodist
mission but bought by the
School here - They have wide
glassed in veranda in front
+ side (screened - we slept
there + saw I thought a
home) with large dining
room + rooms opening from
it for bed rooms. We had
lamps + candles + coal
stoves so were very comfortable.

Really didn't need our
many wraps tho the fresh
nite I wore my woollen

6.] mud houses + crowded
streets + shops. I must
have been 10-12 miles
out to Western Hills. The
sun was setting + its
golden glory + a kind of
lavenderish haze which
covered the rugged blue
outline of hills was just
lovely! We climbed a
little + were soon at the
foot hills - some barren
of trees + quite dry + rocky!
There were foreign-style
houses (the made of native
rock) perched at all
heights over the mountain
(maybe 25 altogether)
and some back in
gulleys! We climbed out

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8] warm things in bed! The
lady from here went + took
the food (which we couldn't
buy out there) + a couple of
"boys". A cook stays there all
of the time. We had supper
+ then Discussion groups.
began with an introduction
to Study of parables of Matt
13. He is an independent
prof. of Yen Ching University (a
union college supported
by mission funds). We

~~couldn't tell for a couple
of sessions where he stood
but at the end we knew -
the whole scheme of inter-
pretation was modern -
you know - Dr. Shorman
called it a critical study~~

9. It was critical + that is all. Some good things were said but as for as getting any spiritual food or a closer view of the Lord or knowing Him, It was as asked. Dr. S. briefly doesn't accept John, nor Paul's writings John Baptist + Paul were too tinged with Jewish conceptions to present Christ's view - Christ not divine - can be saved without belief in His deity! etc etc! It left one as having taken away much + given nothing in return. I was surprised at this "not quoted, ^{but} in substance - Calvinism, which have been permanently honeycombed + for which we are thankful -

¹¹¹ restrictions but Chinese are
without it. Well, natur-
ally Betty + I weren't very
happy over that angle but
on questioning we found
several others who were
not satisfied - so we were
a bit consoled! We are
surely in the fray but
time will have to test
the stand of those who
"profess a form of godliness
but deny the power thereof."
Dr. Sherman was as clever
as anyone I've heard in
disavowal - getting ^{just} what
he wanted said to be said
rejecting ^{any} other view with-
out mercy really, tho in
appearance accepting in

10] did produce vividly strong characters - which had the -
mendous effect on lives of men + history - They (exponents of scientific historical method of study) - must somehow get this same power or the future generations would be ethical atheists -

I was surprised to hear him admit its powerlessness! A man here is Peking said that modernist teachers were quite alarmed at the lengths which Chinese go under their rejection - & afterward. Background and training etc. held Amer. modernists to some

¹⁰ a way - then calling what
he wanted said "The mind of
the group - He is clever!!"

Now I love that out of
my system - I want to
thank God for Moody +
your training at home etc -
& for being able as he
led to see his fallacy
[tho I might not have been
able to have answered
on his grounds] and to
see the utter emptiness he
left - ~~to~~ to know "The Rock"
is under me + tho all
else shall fail this word
shall not pass away!
and that I am saved by
grace not striving to
enter!

12] How we did enjoy the country.
Sat P. M. we climbed the hill
& when at the top what a
view - in between two
gullies were a group of temples
in China - most of the trees one
finds are around temples &
tombs of emperors etc. The
leaves were just turning &
oh it was lovely. We could
look off for over the
plain - see little villages
of mud huts, and around
them fields - not fenced off
but built up on the sloping
side with stones to keep the
soil from erosion & make
a level field - The blue
of sky & all was lovely.
Sun. P. M. we walked over

14] you can find her name
in prayer book. She with
Mrs. Mater, wife of one of our
earliest pioneers of China,
and Miss McKillican live
out there. It was so nice to
meet these people. Mrs. Mater
is so sweet, quite frail +
aged, Miss McKillican has
been here in Peking longest
of all - She has welcomed even
Mrs. Mater) all to Peking.
Served her 40 yrs. + wants to
still keep on with it. It
was very inspiring to meet
one who has so long borne
the battle stripe! At prayer
meeting they gave a report
of the Tsinanfu Conference
of the ones the Board
is holding - They said it

13] to an emporer's tomb
The trees were lovely +
surrounded these various
tombs. I didn't say that
upon the hills we visited
various Buddhist temples
with their idols and
horrible, grotesque figures
— one could almost smell
the incense — (they have no
services there now) the
old bell + drum ^{custom} towers
one on each side is char-
acteristic of all the temples
we've seen. They aren't
well kept up — + seem
quite crumbling with the
weather.

Tues. eve. I was invited
to dinner at the Pres.
mission by a Mrs. Hicks

12 ~~was~~ wonderful! The main effort
is to evaluate work + results
+ work to turn over more of
control to the Chinese. The
plan was first proposed to
let the Chinese + women
too in officially for Presbytery
+ Synod - but felt that a
bit radical so will add
a couple days to each giving
them the place to come +
delegate certain powers to
this assembly. I met Mr.
Fenn - who has published a
Chinese dictionary + who is
quite a linguist. The
final conference is to be
held in Shanghai to
settle many matters.

At Mrs. Hicks I met a

16 Mrs. + Miss Henderson from
Korea live for Miss I's health
who are members of Cousin
Harry's church in Seattle +
who graduated from M.B.D.
They were very nice. I did
enjoy them very much. Will
have them down for
dinner Friday - they want
too to observe "Dearest's"
classes.

We are having such beauti-
ful weather! Bright sunny
days + so warm outside -
We surely enjoy it.

November 2 - Wed. Eve.
dated Oct. 6, Oct 12, Oct 7, 11, Oct 11
Mail came! That verse

in Ps. No. Prov. 25: 25 Surely
has new force for me now!
We had had a nice dinner

18]. I just revel in all the
news of the "doing of the
~~for the~~ - especially the little
things. - There is lunch bell,
Thurs - now Friday noon. I haven't
been able to add more till
now - I am so glad you've had
some letters! ~~That was nice of~~
~~Mr. Myers to ring for you to~~
~~get them!~~ + that you enjoyed
my lengthy volumes - you
will have to take time out
to wade thru it! How I do
thank our Heavenly Father
for the prayers of some
folks + I just wept for
joy over the prayer circle
of Bethel + that they are
remembering me! How sweet
+ precious is the memory

17 All the unmarried girls - at
the other hostel + I came back
with all good intentions of
studying Chinese a long time
(I get so sleepy + weary about
nine that I just have to
go to bed - I'll blame it a
little on the climate for when
I am tired I'm so tired + too
on habit of last year -
of course when I get up
about five I need to get
to bed early.) Margaret went
over for mail + joy - here
were 2 letters from Mumsie
dear, 1 from Bud + Bessie,
1 from Sara + one forwarded
from Wheaton. That was
just wonderful!! I read +
re-read + my such news -

19] of such sweet friends -
I think of it often - "they are
praying for me" and how it
helps!!

Dear little Richard
what a time!! I do pray that
now he is well! I haven't
heard from Mrs. Warner at
all. I guess all the mail
isn't here yet for I've just one
forwarded one + you said
you'd forwarded a lot.

Ask the Bethel folks + you +
others to pray about this -
I'm to have a Bible class -
beginning Sun. A.M. at M.E.
Student work unit. A Mr.
Lee is in charge + seems
perfectly splendid. He
called about two weeks

20/ ago & yesterday to our great
joy the letter came saying
we (Betty Turner from M.B.S.)
have either classes for Christians
or for non Christians. Oh, how
we'll need your prayers. How
we do rejoice in this oppor-
tunity to be used even a
bit for the Chinese. Two
girls here on our floor
too who need spiritual
help so - pray for them.

My - the big news! Rays
are now in Roseburg. I just
can't quite realize it. I am
glad in such a lot of ways
and oh so sorry in one or
two ways - The biggest is
for you precious Daddy &
& Mummy - being left

22 Tell me all about the
farewells etc. ~~the boys~~
will miss them + they her!
That surely was little time
to get ready to move. I
must have rushed them +
they'll be farther from Dr.
Bilderback - but not
more than a day from Wood-
burn. I guess those Christ-
mas boxes should have
been mailed to you. You,
guess better keep the last
ones + forward to Eula.
They'll be home for Christ-
mas of course. Why, I
can't yet realize they have
gone, really! Have you any-
one at all in mind for
the church there? May
the Lord's man be sent!!

21]. Just like Job almost being
bereft of children - of course
not at all like it, really -
but how brave + wonder-
ful you are about it. -
For His sake. How I do
praise Him for you dear
parents - words are just
weak + meaningless when
they are to convey at all
what I wish. But may
He who knows "when we
are lonely" fill the gap
full to overflowing with
His peace + joy + may He
give us precious souls to
count to your reward
for sacrifice. Well, the
church will miss them

23. The work so well built
up may it grow on + on !!

Next installment - nine
o'clock + I had planned to
write all evening - Some girls
came in to talk - it was
fun + nice to have them
but there are a few
disadvantages - I must
tell you tho about the market
Most fascinating place one
can imagine - open only every
ten days + it is kind of a
celebrating time - I judge
from the fancy clothes +
bright colors of the
crowds. Such fun! - just
loads of little stands
+ tables shops + if we
entered the mildest

interest they'd be right us
 to buy. It was so thrilling
 to ask them in best Chinese
 one can muster the price -
 then to be able to under-
 stand the reply - one is
 almost thrilled even just
 to buy anything - We do
 know that phrase quite
 well - "how much" - & may
 really give an intelligent
 air & then they launch out
 into lengthy explanations
 we are lost & also the
 truth is out - we know only
 a little! There was a little
 brass thing fine work on
 it etc. - He wanted a dollar
 I said "too much" in the
 proper manner & ^{slightly} ~~little~~ ~~to~~ ~~say~~

26 | run after me - "all right
missy" - If you once set
a price + they come to it
you must take it! so
I have it - just what I'll
use it for - time will tell.
However it was worth it
to have had the fun of
bargaining! I've been licking
stamps + Betty said to
save funeral flowers she
would get me a sponge
cup - so she bargained for
that + a lovely old brass
teapot for \$1 - 50¢ U.S.

I'll write more in a.m.
vity nite my precious
ones - Suppose I ought
to put this already for

25 | this is Chinese bargain
hunting - when they muster
all their English - to this
extent "how muchee you
pay - you say" repeated
often & with emphasis -
This point just amuses me
till I can't answer (especially
when they follow you
over the place with some
trinket, you don't want
at all - Then you
answer the smallest sum
you can think of & it
really seems the more
indifferent one is the more
sure they will follow
you. Well, I said 2 moa
= 5¢ our U.S. & he said "no"
in most superior manner
so I left - to leave him

27] letter in an envelope +
start another one - Earl
will be asking if I have
any paper left! or if there
is any in China?

~~Nitty nitty~~ - How happy
I am to be here - I can't yet
realize it! but oh I am
glad - How good the Father
is to us - surely our all
is little to give. But I do
praise Him for all, -

Will get a good rest now -

- Sat. a.m. Will write this

a.m. to Oregon Volunteers -

+ P.M. have several things
on - will tell of them

later. So glad Clyde was
down! glad too to hear
about Daddy Si feeling
better. Mummy's dearest

28/ How do you feel! Is Daddy
Si coughing still, I'm am
glad about the Better
pageant & that it came off
well! May it do a very
definite work in their hearts!
Eorp, I'm waiting for football
full report etc etc!!

This is now Bud's Bessie! —
My precious ones — you
will forgive my not repeat-
ing all the general news won't
you? I want you to get it
all so will put your letter
in with it! Bless your dear
hearts that was such a
wonderfully fine fat letter!
Letters just mean heaps &
Buddie mine, to think of
getting such a volume
from you too! God surely

30 the boxes but is put on a
long seat there near + such
a rushing eager crowd!
Someone stairs above looking
down + others peering over
shoulders! Shown it after
gotten in the center rush but
someone always passes
the letter out. Thanks to
you dear ones every big
mail from America has
brought something +
in second bunch a letter
from Daddy Di! Your Bud
+ his are kept in same
"rare occurrence" pocket.
but I've a feeling I'll
have to discard that
classification. Surely af-
ter this I will. I do so

29] does give the nicest -
surprises + blessings. I
just praise Him for you
dear ones! But you were
questioning what would inter-
est me - absolutely every-
thing - you mentioned that
I'd not be interested in the
apple wrap + small details
I am decidedly so!!!! See the
distance + difference in
all my life etc brings a
sort of unreality + dream-
iness in it all - Those little
details + ordinary news
seem to just be a link
+ I'm so glad for them -
and for any thing you
write. Some day you ought
to see the mail box end of
the hall - it never gets to

31. appreciate them. Bessie
yours full of news was so
good + Bessie Margie's
sweet one - They all made
me weep a bit - I have
followed gladly a bit
sadly too - news of Ray's +
Eula's leaving. It is doubt-
less best for them and
all - tho I can't but be a
bit sorry it comes just at
this time for mother. She
said in her letter it
would be lonely now for
her. but isn't she brave +
fine!

Good for Rev. Lully + his
twenty min. sermons a year
with some of his weekly ones
opposed to missions! He is

32. wonderful I think, I'll ^{surely} ^{surely} remember that in prayer.
Bernie hon, I hope the canning
is over for now - glad the grapes
were so fruitful - like some just
now - to me really have an
unusually fine choice of vegetables
some a bit queer tasting I'll
grant but so green, ^{in color} ~~you~~
just sure things chuck full
of vitamins + minerals! We
had delicious persimmons -
big orange colored ones - get
all soft inside + are so good!
Your fair description was
good - I'd not have felt at
home to without something
given to me ^{at} very booth a
some hard cider!

How my heart aches for
you dear kids - it surely is
a trial dear ones - I am so
sorry Vi is feeling so -
It may be tho that you

34/ Know each others' needs
+ bear them to him + know
that they are answered! Just
such marvellous peace as
it gives! I wonder if we
do not more often feel the
burden is because of our
lack of touch with him or
after being so centered on our
own interests + worries we
have all the wires full!
I surely will remember dear
ones + I know he will come
for it! What joy to know
that Christ lives in us!
literally + that it is he then
whom we must trust to
meet these needs + give the
Victory. Then comes peace
+ contentment + joy. We
had such a treat this a.m.
in leaving Mrs. Gafarth - you
heard me speak of her -
her husband is chaplain to

33 | are the only ones who can help
her to him whom she needs so!
May He give the grace needed +
I do know how it is hard for
you dears, + just pray that
Ceil will not give up his
faith + become bitter. It
may be that it is all settled
now + you are free - but after
my second letter a little over
2 weeks ago I felt such a bur-
den of prayer for you for a
day or more when at last
then peace came + the answer
has come, whether it be for
this trial or for the financial
condition I do not know
anyway - it has left me
absolutely in peace for you
I just praise Him! Ah to
be always so in tune that
tho miles away + weeks
away by letters we can

35] Teng's soldiers) She told
how for years she strived as
a missionary here in China &
for after 40 yrs in all for that
sense of nearness of God &
peace & joy - She was consider-
ed a very good zealous missy,
& said shed sacrificed anything
for the Chinese but there were
the same failings, temper, even
hate ^{hollow} for a missy - etc - till
the truth that Christ was in
her. Gal 2:20 + Col 1:27 being the
plainest statements changed it
all & since then the joy &
peace & victory. She said then
she hoped to walk perfectly
& was so opposed to fall in
temper & discontent that she
felt hapless - but she
had to learn that we

36
must walk each day + if
we sin we have an advo-
cate with the father" + on
immediate confession + claim-
ing forgiveness we can get
up + go on! The very sight of
her face is a benediction —
such sweet peace + just
a heavenly radiance. She
said the secret of this
abiding in the vine was
absolute + unquestioned ad-
herence to the known will of
God. It was a rich message
+ we did enjoy it. We get
little like it. Morning
services at P. U. M. C. is
highly intellectual in lecture
style + Union church where
I help fill a chair seat-
locks much! to feed ones
soul.

38] - your burdens ^{+ mine} ~~then~~ will
be lightened ~~to~~ ^{as} ~~the~~ ^{comes}
them; then maybe I can be
brought thru our prayers -
How much we need to
learn of Him! I feel so like
a southern vessel - trying to
carry His message - How
after He must be misrep-
resented by me.

Am so glad you got dresses
out of those pieces. I do
wonder if the boxes will
continue to come to Eula &
Ray - They will be a loss if
not eh? I'd love to see
Marque in her new little
dresses, hat + coat - I still
have a vivid picture of her
walking so sweetly + trust-
ingly up those steps to
pull the band master's

37) She told the story of a vine
in a famous park in London
formerly in Queen Victoria's
garden famous for fruit &
size. At length it seemed
just to die - & after all
experiments failed they were
going to dig it up when
as if by magic - it sudden-
ly came to such new
life - new leaves & buds &
that year gathered tons of
grapes. Scientists ~~needed~~ ^{needed} just
determined to know secret -
they found its roots had
gone down & were drawing
directly from the Thames
River! May our lives be
in such constant touch
with the source of life.
Then may China be awakened

coat tail !! I've been wondering
if you haven't Eula's stone
I thought Mother said there
was one in at Roseburg.

China is upset but we're
safe so far. Today word came of
an armed burglar getting into the
house of one girl who was on our
boat - I was shot - rather
small flesh wounds - might
have happened in N.Y. or Portland
but sounds worse here.

How I appreciate your prayers
& do remember the Bible class.

It will be difficult you
can see. Thank Cecil, your father
& mother for their good wishes
& prayers. They are just a
wonderful family aren't they?
God has been good to us!

Bye my darling Bud & Bessie
& Margie. How I love you & long
for you all - but still am just
perfectly happy here on this. Will
God keep you & me & you to His
glory. - All my love Irene

November - 15 -

I haven't come!

I will enclose a copy letter of one I'm using to answer a pile & to send Christmas greetings. I wrote it yesterday so I didn't get yours off. Too there were so many interruptions. We got up early - soon after breakfast we went to our S.S. class - I took my guitar so the boys had wanted to learn some English songs. We taught them two. They seemed very pleased about it and learned them in a surprisingly short time. It just happened one of them had many t s ls in it - I hadn't wanted to me that those are among the

Wed. we called on Mrs. Gafarth & what a blessed time we had!! To be in her presence is almost like a mount transfiguration. She gave us some of her messages to copy & we had such a sweet time! She was talking of missy's etc & how the standards of many are being & how been lowered and how close we need to keep to Him & not look to people for our example. When we left she kissed us good-bye & said "Never lower your standards" - I hope I can always remember that P.M. It was blessed & I had a letter this week from the station inviting me to spend Christmas

hardest letter for the Chinese to say - anyway they got good practice if nothing else & they really did very well. They seemed to enjoy the singing & music very very much - even my singing and playing. Then they played the Chinese pipe-like fute for us. Their music is very different from ours but I liked it. Then we divided up into classes and we had a story and a little discussion of it. We thoroughly enjoy going there & our contacts with the boys but hope soon to be able to put more Bible in. I feel we can, later all right. Last

with them - (Now Sat. Nov 20)
They said they'd send a man
to the station but which we
would have to change from
the main line if I desired.
but the change to another
train would not be difficult
at all. I have written them
that I'd come if it were
advisable at that time
from train situation and
war status. It is hard to
tell whether by then one can
go or not. ^{of course} it will
be hard ^{to} traveling in winter
but since I didn't stop on
the way up they about
expect it from me & be-
sides it will be almost
necessary if I have to get
equipment for country
trips etc to know what to
get etc. There is much to
be said on the practical

5 side of it basing ~~the~~ pleasure
of going & visiting station
etc - They said they were
expecting me for sure - said
too, come & help us give gifts
to the Chinese. I don't know
whether I can save enough out
of next month's pay or not
for you see it is so soon it
doesn't give me any time to
do that. Of course I can
borrow from my outfit
account. I hat will be
very soon - how time flies
and this will be a busy
month - have exams before
vacation which begins Dec 17.
so will have to just dig
this month. We're beginning
to ~~realize~~ ^{magnitude of} the task ahead of
us. Have begun character
analysis & writing & they are
beginning to expect much of
us!! It is so perfectly

1) to write with that wholly
in mind I feel often I'd
rather just talk to you +
you see what you want
to rather than my trying to
cut it + sort out -

How thankful I am for the
prayers of home friends! It
means everything!!

Am glad Mr. Barrett is better.
I am so glad the debt is off of
Ladie's Aid - not that I feared
about it but so Eula + Ray
could leave feeling all
was done of debt + with
such a lot accomplished

Such activity getting Eula's
off. Isn't it sweet off all
to help so! Mrs. Overton to
help sew. Sarah said they
were just heart sick over
their leaving. Was it Oct 20

4 forenoon I just love it
but our time seems awfully
full already! No letter this
week but yours, Clyde's +
Sarah's came last week. I
keep feeling that all you
have forwarded ^{now written} have not
come because I haven't
had as many as you've
referred to. I was so glad
to hear from all of you.
I laughed at Earl calling my
letter a package! I guess that
was right at that. I + surely
is sweet of so many being
interested in the letters. Sarah's
letter came first + she said
she'd read a letter in Indepen-
dent + I wondered which letter
but yours explained it.
I am glad if any can be
used for blessing or interest
so just use all you
can. I'm glad I don't love

of Sept 20 they left? I can't quite make out. I am praying about the one who will come + am eager to know who it will be! Oh, that there be a new spirit of prayer + evangelism for the whole work that now it is so on its feet it can "go forward". There is such danger of sitting back in sluggish ease viewing the accomplishments of past.

Have been working on a committee for thanksgiving program. Will have dinner in evening and then a program. We wanted as much variety as possible - so a girl + I worked an hour or so trying to get our quitor + like together for a couple of songs - we may succeed.

9. A Methodist girl we met on the boat invited us to tea + reception Friday P.M. It was very lovely - had a nice little visit + 2 hours of recreation. On the way we saw great crowd collecting and in great excitement. We learned they were taking four men to execute them. It seemed so horrible. Will see today's paper for details. Will be told of incident recently - a couple of soldiers went in to inspect a coal yard + stole some money. They were promptly hung right in the yard. They do it in days of military control I guess to instill fear - It seemed terrible tho.

Then coming home we saw what we thought to

might come. Sun. Eve.

Expect I won't have any mail now till Wed. so will finish this + go to bed. Sat. P.M. I studied + in the evening all the hostel group met in the kitchen + made candy. It was fun. Made fudge, + another girl + I tried taffy + strange to say it ~~was~~ ever so good. Today we had our classes. There was a special train of 200 or more went today to see the great wall. It is difficult to get there now without such a party + many feared it an only chance - but I did not feel right even if I never see it to just take all day Sun. for it. I have had such a happy

10 | He an American officer whipping his ricksha coolie - which for barborty equalled the other. We heard whips crack + he was brandishing it - but maybe to get the coolie's attention. So one of the girls insisted she saw him hit him. I'd rather think the other.

Anyway he heard our remarks of our opinion of him so maybe if he did whip him it will help to calm him. Don't take this too seriously for we might be accusing him wrongly, but evidence seems against him. But we do know foreigners do not always treat coolies well. This P.M. I am going to study. I'll close now + wait till tomorrow to close a letter.

peaceful day - I feel I did
right in remaining! Have
written a few Christmas
letters - won't write many this
year at all - most all owe
me now, matter can't
you number your letters & those
that you forward could you
keep track of post mark & return
no if they are lost I will
know who wrote. It may
be more trouble than worth
while.

Bye, bye my darling folks!
How I love you & long for
you - yet I am so happy
to be here & am just loving
it very very much!

Time to crawl in' bed -
4 more weeks of this term -
God bless & keep you
dear, lovingly, Irene

Thurs. P. M.

Dec. 7, 1924.

Dearest One:

I haven't been able to write before now but want to get a letter started anyway. I do not know when steamers leave but hope you won't miss having a letter.

Today has been real winter! In fact the first of Dec. it was cold & our geography teacher said it ^{has} begun for several winters on Dec 1 for real winter. The "Dearest" said this a. m. that this was only winter's "little child" - that the father & mother would come in about three weeks! See we haven't had all the words necessary but he expressed the idea wonderfully! That too shows you what great ability he & all of our teachers have in expressing

3] Their hair does look very
pretty + ^{is so straight + black + glossy} + is becoming. I have
seen a few with it curled
+ I don't like it! It is with
"Chinery" and somehow just
doesn't fit at all! We
are so surprised to see
the women always without
hats and the men with either
felt hats or knit tam-like
head covering or fur caps
but even in the coldest
weather we've had the women
almost all are bare headed
Once in a while we see
a kind of copy of a foreign
hat but not frequently!
Sun. A.M. I saw one lady
with fur ear flaps on
but no hat; How terrible
it is for the poor folks
+ rich men these cold

2) much, much with our limited vocabulary. The other day my private teacher + I had a long conversation about hair - I haven't had the word yet but hands are so convenient - + how often the Chinese wash their hair etc. I would rather agree I think with the beauty specialist who said Americans washed theirs too much! They wash it in summer but not in winter + use some kind of oil on it to make it slick + smooth. The unmarried women + wives now both have bangs which are quite long, then they comb their hair back tight + roll it in the back. Some use fancy pins + all seem to wear little hair nets over the back knot!

cold days! I do so pity them.
It is a blessed thought that
someday will have a world
without these horrible condi-
tions - These things which
we can't really solve. Christ
Himself will someday come
for. I got Aunt Clara's scarf
out of the trunk just now &
it does look so pretty & feel
so warm!!

Saturday A.M. I started out
to the bank & to do a few errands. I
went to a number of shops - got a
book for a girl & then went to
a kind of bazaar - had fun helping a
little Russian girl get something
then out I came to find the
ricksha man gone. I looked & looked
no ricksha - you know how a dozen
things can flash in ones mind all
at once - my morning spent \$3.50
book gone, \$1.50 other packages,
my rug etc etc - I saw two police-
men standing next & decided sure

5 The day before I had had the word
for ricksha + coolie etc I'd practice
my Chinese by telling them my
troubles. Really, it is getting
funny - they accuse me of doing
anything to practice Chinese -
They seemed to understand my
words but then they burst into
a great flood of much I didn't
understand at all!! + I led to
end my conversation with
"I don't understand". Just as I
had said that a few times -
here came my man. I told
the kids I almost felt like
throwing my arms around him.
I was so glad he had come
+ all ever safe. I'd gone to
a place to get some food -
I didn't find where but the
soldiers + he laughed when
I got in - Thus ended

7) soldiers so we had that
first. A man at Peking
Union Medical College chapel
gave the story of Chinese Bible.
It was so interesting to hear
the early labors & of the
translation work. Truly we
can be thankful that that
great task is finished & all
so well done. Truly we build
on another man's foundation
& reap other's fruit! Margaret
Speer (daughter of Robt E. Speer)
& a girl were in from Yen Ching
over the week end so all
of us ate at a special
table for dinner. Then at
three the choir practiced
an anthem at the home of
a Mr. Ridge who is in the
choir. They live in a Chinese
house & it is just lovely.
I had so many davenports &

6) my first almost-adventure of
being stolen from or captured
or something worse in China -
when I got home I was so
glad he hadn't betrayed trust
I paid him a little more -
of course this is untested
philosophy or theory but
I followed it. P. M. Betty
& I had a rousing set of tennis
then later went to see Mrs. Go-
forth then out to the West
Presbyterian mission compound
to an "at home" met Mrs. Fern
& Mrs. Johnson & some others
Sunday was full. We went
to our class but as they were
having a special communion
service at the church we
had only about 20. They
had asked to learn the
English of Onward Christian

8 deep chairs + cushions it was
~~very~~ so comfy - but a bit
~~cold~~ inspite of fireplace + an
oil stove. They served tea +
an English girl said it was
real English + made her homesick.
Sea was strong + there was
such a selection of sweet
cookies, cakes, etc. - needless
to say it really wasn't
very good for the mice to have
had such a tea before church
which is at 5:30. (After dinner
here. Dr. Gafort spoke to the
language students on Gen
Seng. He told those first
stories we've had + then he
spoke of the present situa-
tion. He feels he truly was
a born-again Christian -
but that he has backslidden
some, because of his
attitude to Russia. He said

of Teng has almost swallowed
Russian in whole, he thinks it
is the most ably Christian
of any place; that their doctrine
will be a sure cure; The said
he felt too his blinder in
that with what he was doing
he couldn't have time as a fold
for pray + Bible study. He
said a certain general had
been telegraphing + writing
+ pleading with him to rein-
state Christ at the head of
the army as he had ^{as} of old.
Of course now his army is
larger 150,000 instead of 30,000
as of old; ^{for} Gaptth said on his
last visit he saw something
+ things never tolerated before;
too Teng had been forcing
money from provinces + taking
carts + animals from former
things he always before

11] + they could be assured the
protection + help of Cantonese.
Monday a.m. I went with
Betty to P. U. M. c. to have some
operation on her nose. She
was in the operating room
for 2 hours + they couldn't
give her even a local anes-
thesia - She surely did have
nerve - Dr. said she was
just wonderful. A Chinese
Dr. did the operating. I stayed
till one - then went to a
couple of classes + got the
new words + ^{went back} stayed till 8:30
P.M. Mrs. Gaforth gave us
each a copy of "How I know
God Answers Prayer" - a
wonderful book she has
written ^{at front of ours} + in it she wrote
several pages of advice
etc. It was so sweet of

10] refused utterly to do. Dr. Goforth said they parted as warm friends as before - but he felt a difference tho. Gen. Teng says he is as staunch as of old. Dr. Goforth made such a plea for prayer for him, that he will be brought back & yet be used to bring peace & blessing to China. He is now lined up with the Cantonese. I won't say so much about them because I am not able to say. In the paper their announced platform sounded very fine. Some had feared that they were Anti-missionary but this statement said there was need for mission.

11.) her to give them to us. I've
wanted one so much! Coming
home last night I fully
decided to get a fur rug
for ricksha + coats as it in
the country later. One get
skin for very little + at the
mission work room where
poor women work they will
line it. A lovely one can
be gotten for \$14.00 Mex or \$7.
gold. So many have gotten
fur coats - get lovely ones
for \$60 - \$80 Mex, I'm not
sure yet that I need one -
& just what I'd need to
use my outfit allowance
for. Some have gotten them
out of that. I'll see later
what I need, I guess I'll
not write more tonight but
get to studying + finish
later - Goodnight precious ones!!

Thursday P. M.
Dec. 16, 1924

My Precious Ones;

I am afraid this is pretty late & you'll be missing a week's loving mail but maybe not - This has been such a full week I could not get it off before - I'll try now to write some! This week has been examination week & I'm glad it is over. Imagine one term of language work is over!! & I can't realize it at all! It surely has been a short term too! And the others will be gone before I know it!

Our worst exam was in Chinese History - we had 2 hour lectures on Wed P. M. all term covering all of Chinese history

3 weeks to ask us questions
or let us ask him. It was
hard because he expected
us to translate from written
characters which are so
different from the printed
ones. Then mine had
review all week under
our Chinese teachers which
haven't been bad. Today
one of the three head teachers
came in & examined us a
bit - but it wasn't bad!
The Chinese teachers are
so splendid. There are two
besides "Deoret" which they
call the tigers - we have
had to memorize a story
in Chinese with a tiger in
it & of course that word
is well known. These teachers
watch work & supervise
& one whom we thought
especially cross as it
is his business to come in

2
+ which is rather a lot to crowd
into that time & then we
were supposed to read books
outside - We're really done
little outside - trying to put
in more time on Chinese so
it has been a wild dash
at last to do all we need!
It has been a bit hard on
the Professor who lectures
knows so much about + just
sails over our heads! +
didn't even stop to spell
the names of Chinese for us
- + that is one of the very
hardest parts to get Chinese
names. Well, by much
digging we at last were
ready - He gave fifty ques-
tions which we were to
mark simply, false or true
I know I missed four but
think I got three K.O. - at
last I hope so. - We had
one exam in Chinese by a
foreigner who comes 1/2 hr a

to classes + act as sort of a
spy to see whether we are
writing down characters
when we are supposed to
listen and ~~listen~~ ^{hear} too to
see that no English is
spoken + that no words
besides the ones we should
have are given to us.
At first I didn't like him
much but the other day
we had quite a conversa-
tion - he asked among other
things what work I was
going to take up. When I
told him he was so pleased
+ said that was very very fine.
Today Parent gave us the
words for Christ + his
birthday + it was so
sweet the way he explain-
ed about Him. If those
who think the Chinese are
only laundry men + coolies

5) could see some of our teachers
they would get a very different
idea of them! Our lady
teachers too are 'splendid'!

It is such fun - to be able
to talk even a little + getting
out in the shops is surely
fun. I had such fun last
Friday eve. We got Betty
home from hospital Wed, but
she has so little appetite
that I went for some fruit
juice - (We can get American
juice quite a large bottle
for 50¢ Mex - 25¢ gold), I was
in this nice little grocery
& fruit store + there were
three Chinese ladies there;
judge they were quite wealthy
+ maybe the old conservative
type - to whom foreigners
were still a bit of a curiosity
- maybe I looked unusually
funny - anyway they looked
+ watched me with such a
amused expression as if I

1 | "Today I haven't had any
food!" It just breaks one's
heart! Of course the profes-
sionals say that too -
+ even a few ~~papers~~ won't
really help them. I have cold
days last week 200 Chinese
died of cold in Peking in
two days. There are ⁷ soup kitchens
^{run by} Salvation Army
that can care for 7000 with
one meal daily. There are some
shelters too provided. Many
are contributing to this. They
investigate with the police +
feed the ones who are in real
need! Each station costs
\$10.00 ^{max} per day + feeds 1000 for
the day. There are 30 such kitchens
over the city. I asked one of the
officers if I could help some
with the distribution during
vacation. I hope I can help
some Christmas day. I'd
love it.

6 | were very strange. It
amused me so that I
smiled + then they said
in Chinese — and the thrill
of it was I understood
them when they didn't think
I could — "ah she smiles!"
so I smiled some more for
them! + got my change
then as I passed, I bowed +
in Chinese "Hau de you de")
They were more surprised than
ever + laughed — It was
fun — the merchant bowed
me to the door + they were
still looking!! It was
so funny. Then the same
day, I decided it wasn't
so nice to be able to
understand — because I
could tell what some
dirty, ragged old ladies
cried after me —

8] Sun. we had our class + a good time. I feel there are great possibilities in them - please pray for those boys - China's future leaders maybe. Then Dr. Gafarth spoke on "Grieving the Holy Spirit" to a small group. I was just blessed too. What a blessing they are to us! Mrs. Gafarth is getting better and we are so happy about it.

Sun. P.M. - was going to write + some came in + then I read Mrs. Gafarth's book - a copy of which she autographed + gave me - one to Betty too - + "It is wonderful" "How I know God Answers prayer" I saw a clipping from L.S. Times that told of Fred Gafarth's consecration. Dr. Gafarth told us of it a few

9 weeks before! Will you
send me the article which he
writes telling of it. I just
saw that an article would
soon appear. I have here
been too a couple of
articles running on Anne
McPherson in the Peking
Paper - they were copied from
"The Republic" + surely one
the most sarcastic in their
attacks on fundamentalism
- including her as an
example - & they too just
saying a word ^{at the end} that Frank
Morris people are upholding
him - ended by saying
that "fundamentalists know
no moral right or wrong
& won't ~~even~~ stop at
murder to propagate
their doctrines."

Sum eve. we always have
a ring - Mrs. Bly + I sang

11) good exercise + clean fun!
It will be worth it for
2 or 3 months! I hope my
skates will come soon!
They were supposed to leave
N.Y. soon after the 10th of Nov.
This Saturday P.M. is the
annual party we give to
our Chinese teachers +
families. I'll tell you of
it later - also about
our invitation out to
supper with this Mr. Lee
who is in charge of student
work - who asked us to
take the class.

No letters from America
have come yet this week
but will soon I expect.

That boat Lienchiang I went
from Shanghai to Pekingon
was wrecked last Sun.

Struck a rock at 3 a.m.
+ sunk in an hour. All the

10 | a few choruses + I played
I'm enjoying that guitar
so so much! Even tho it
was a pain to carry all the
way! I'll have hopes of
really playing wif I live
long enuf!

Tomorrow we are to have a
liturgical service, high Epis-
copal in the auditorium
by the chaplain of Infantry
U.S. stationed at Lientun +
Infantry choir. In the P.M.
no school + then begins
our two weeks of vacation.
I expect to study a lot
get all the lessons of
first term mastered + reviewed
+ skate quite a lot -
P.U.M.C. has a skating
rink - I got a ticket
B. Mex. but I never spend
on other things for myself
as many do + that is

foreigners were saved but
about 50 Chinese drowned. The
captain dived off for his cabin
boy - but he was dead when
he got him. The Y. U. C. A. workers
en route home via Europe lost
all their belongings - & one
5 years ^{of} research material!

It was surely too bad!

Deers I must now get to
studying - I'll write again
soon but will get this
on its way -

Deers how what you mean
to me I can't tell. Just to
know you're there & praying
for me!! Oh isn't God good
to us! I just praise Him!
I've decided not to go to Yi-
hien - too risky - might not
get back!

Bye darling over all
my love -
Gene